

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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REPORT

DATE DISTR. 24 April 1957

NO. OF PAGES 1

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

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REFERENCES

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

A report on the Sofia-Plovdiv road describing the terrain, construction, rivers and bridges Drawings of the road bridges and railroad bridges spanning the Isker and Maritsa rivers are attached to the report.

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| STATE | X | ARMY | # | X | NAVY | # | X | AIR | # | X | FBI | | AEC | | | | | | |
| (Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#") | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

1. Route taken: SOFIA - VAKAREL - IKHIMIAN - LESKA - KUMIN PROHOD -
GARA KOSTENETS - BELOVO - MALO BELOVO - LOZEN -
ZVUNICHEVO - PAZARDZHIK - PLOVDIV.

2. Distance travelled: 155 kilometers (Approx 96 miles)

3. Width of this road, up to the 4th kilometer, is about 18 meters.
(This includes shoulders.) From 4th kilometer to the end of
route, the width of the actual road is 8 meters, except for a
stretch from the 26th to the 36th kilometer which narrows to 6
meters because of the steep upgrade traversed by the road.

4. Terrain description: From the first to the twenty-sixth kilo-
meter, the countryside is flat. From the 26th to the 36th
kilometer, it is rugged. From 36th kilometer to PLOVDIV, the
road traverses level land.

5. Construction of Road:

| | | | | |
|----------------|---|-------|----|---------------------|
| From kilometer | 1 | to | 11 | Block paved |
| " | " | 11 | " | 17.5 Asphalt paved |
| " | " | 17.5 | " | 17.9 Block paved |
| " | " | 17.9 | " | 23 Asphalt paved |
| " | " | 23 | " | 110 Block paved |
| " | " | 110 | " | 113.5 Asphalt paved |
| " | " | 113.5 | " | 122.5 Block paved |
| " | " | 122.5 | " | 155 Asphalt paved |

6. Points where road may be disrupted:

Bridges at point 10.4 kilometers and 80 kilometers.

7. No tunnels are to be found on this road.

8. Cliffs, etc. - From the 26th to the 34th kilometer and from the
72nd to the 82nd kilometer, the edge of the road is precipitous.

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9. Obstacles: Traffic is impeded at the following points:

Point 10.4 kilometers (The ISKER river)
Point 80 kilometers (The MARITSA river)

10. Technical projects: None observed along length of road.

11. Road conditions: Good

12. Two large bridges are located at point 10.4 and 80th kilometer, spanning the ISKER and MARITSA rivers, respectively.

a. Description of road bridge spanning the ISKER river at 10.4 kilometers. (See Attachment No. 1)

- (1) Length: Approx 50 meters
- (2) Width: Approx 5 meters
- (3) Type of bridge: Continuous truss composed of three sections. The first and third truss arch are approx 3.5 meters high. Mid section of truss is approx 5 meters high. Iron girders tie in all three sections.
- (4) Bridge platform is 4 meters above the river.
- (5) Bridge foundation is constructed of concrete.
- (6) Road bed is asphalted.
- (7) Both river banks are fordable.
- (8) Bridge is unguarded.

b. Description of road bridge spanning the MARITSA river at kilometer 80. (See Attachment No. 2)

- (1) Length: Approx 30 meters
- (2) Width: Approx 6 meters
- (3) Type of bridge: Rail balustrade on both sides of bridge, rising to 0.60 meters in height.
- (4) Bridge platform is approx 10 meters above the river.
- (5) Bridge foundation is constructed of concrete and is arch-shaped.
- (6) Road bed is block paved.
- (7) Both river banks are precipitous with a height of about 10 meters.
- (8) Bridge is unguarded.

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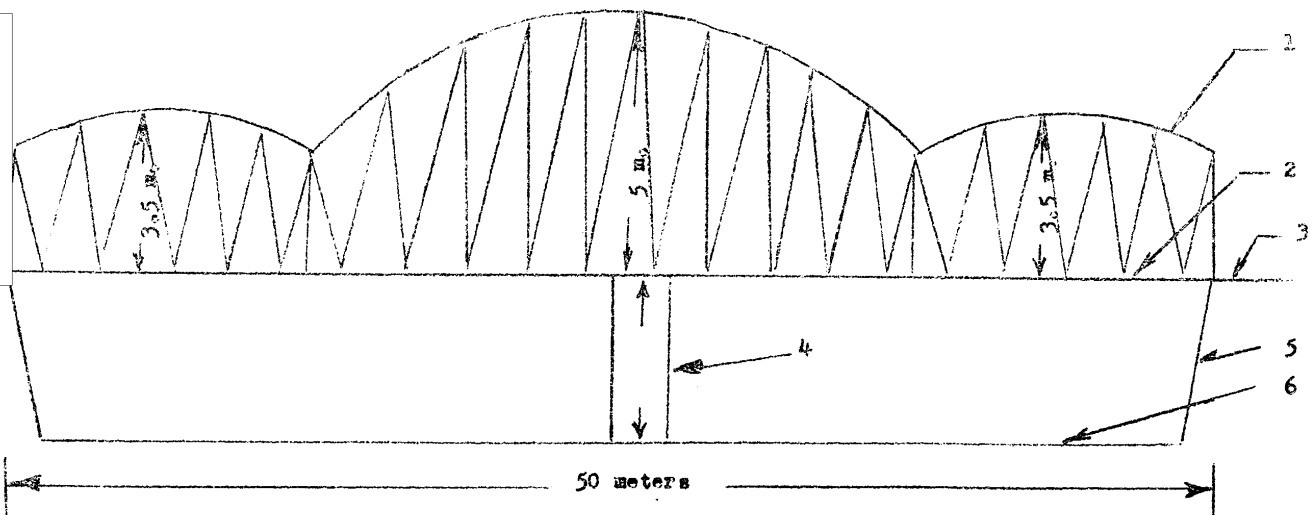
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- c. Description of railroad bridge spanning the MARITSA river at kilometer 80. This bridge parallels the bridge mentioned in 12 b. above, and is located on right of road bridge while driving to PLOVDIV. (See Attachment No. 3)
- (1) Length: Approx 20 meters
 - (2) Width: Approx 3.5 meters
 - (3) Type of bridge: Arch-shaped with lattice work of iron girders.
 - (4) Bridge platform is approx 6 meters above the river.
 - (5) Bridge is unguarded.
- d. Description of railroad bridge spanning the MARITSA river at kilometer 84. (See Attachment No. 4)
- (1) Length: Approx 20 meters
 - (2) Width: Approx 3.5 meters
 - (3) Bridge platform is approx 5 meters wide.
 - (4) Bridge is unguarded.

ROAD BRIDGE - DRAWING NO. 1

LEGEND

1. Truss
2. Road bed
3. Bridge platform
4. Support (pillar)
5. Abutment
6. River bed

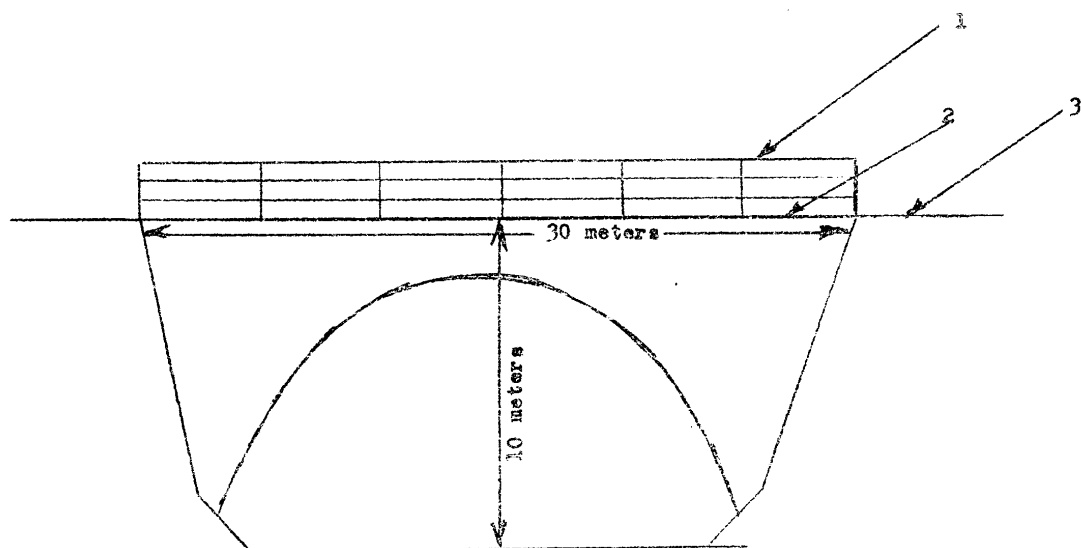


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ROAD BRIDGE - DRAWING NO. 2

LEGEND:

1. Bridge railing, 0.60 meters high
2. Road bed
3. Bridge platform

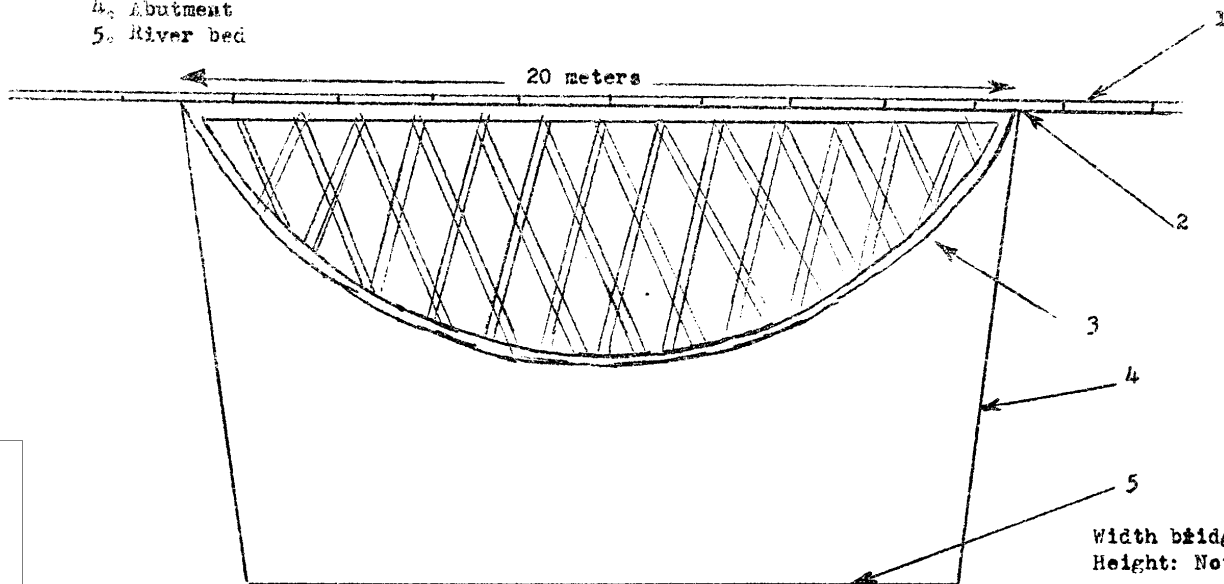


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RAILROAD BRIDGE - DRAWING NO. 3

LEGEND:

1. Train rails
2. End support
3. Bridge foundation
4. Abutment
5. River bed



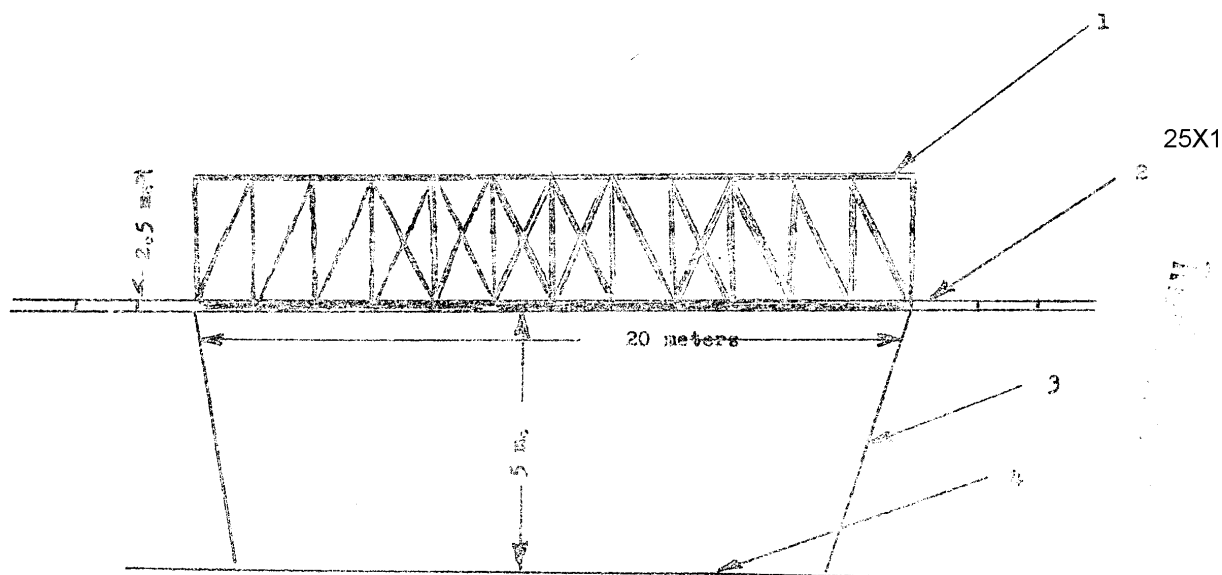
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RAILROAD BRIDGE - DRAWING NO. 4

LEGEND:

- 1. Truss
- 2. Main rails
- 3. Abutment
- 4. River bed



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